

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Aug. 25, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

Army Campaign Plan continues on Channel 21

The Garrison Directorate of Information Management will broadcast the Army Campaign Plan presentation on channel 21 at 8 and 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., today and 23 thru 25. The presentation is approximately 35 minutes.

It is a Northeast Region, Installation Management Agency requirement for all Garrison personnel (military, civilian and contractor) to view the presentation by Aug. 25.

DA photo policy change

Effective immediately, military personnel are no longer required to forward hardcopy photos to the Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center for Enlisted Soldier Promotion Selection Boards if the photo studio has the capability to upload photos electronically to the Department of the Army Photo Management Information System (DAPMIS).

Only selection boards held at the Human Resources Command in Alexandria for active Army officers still require hardcopy photos.

The APG Photo facility will no longer issue paper copies to enlisted Soldiers for the annual promotion boards.

Requests for hardcopies for other types of selection boards will still be honored as well as for officers in the above category.

Any questions should be directed to the Soldiers' servicing Military Personnel Branch.

Tennis courts closed for repairs

Plumb Point tennis courts are closed for repairs and will reopen as soon as possible.

Additional motorcycle classes offered

Four additional motorcycle safety training classes are scheduled.

Aug. 24, 7 a.m. to noon
Aug. 27, 7 a.m. to noon
Anyone interested in registering should call David Backert, 443-910-

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Taking the Chesapeake Challenge



Photo by MEGHAN BOWEN

From left to right, Firefighters George Dorbert and Glen Wilhelm help paramedic Dave Morlok prepare to transport Pvt. Robert Masi on a stretcher outside of Cohen Hall during a flash fire test exercise in the Aberdeen Area July 20. See story page 12.

Army eliminates senior rater profile on company-grade OERs

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

Senior raters evaluating lieutenants, captains and warrant officers 1 and 2 will change the way they compare the rated officer with his or her peers in the active Army after Oct. 1.

Specifically, the change eliminates the use of block 7b of the Officer Evaluation Report, Department of the Army Form 67-9, for company grade officers and warrant officers 1 and 2.

The current senior rater profiling contains four ratings: above center of mass, center of mass, below center of mass retain and below center of mass do not retain.

With Human Resources

Command input, it reflects where the senior rater has rated other officers of equal rank in the past and where the senior leader thinks the rated officer falls in a direct peer-to-peer comparison. Senior rater profiling will be retained for use in rating majors and above, and warrant officers 3 and above.

"We're getting away from that competitive peer-to-peer comparison at the company grade and lower warrant officer level to allow more leader focus on developing leaders and fostering closer unit cohesion," said Maj Gen Dorian T. Anderson, Human Resources Command commanding general.

Along with the end of peer-

to-peer comparison at the company level, the Army will also expand developmental plans and counseling requirements beyond junior officers to include captains and warrant officers 2 in the active Army effective Oct. 1. Future version of DA Form 67-9-1a, Junior Officer Developmental Support Form, will have the word "junior," deleted to reflect the inclusion of more senior officers and warrants.

The OER enhancements will eventually be made in the Army Reserve and National Guard, but each has its own unique requirements and timeline, officials said.

"Evaluations have to do two things: provide good solid feedback to the rated individ-

ual for development and it has to provide information for the system to use to select those qualified individuals for promotion to the next higher grade," Anderson said. "The challenge is to find the balance between feedback for individual development and the information promotion boards need for selections. The enhancements of eliminating senior rater profiling, and at the same time requiring more senior involvement by raters in counseling and mentoring process, allows company grade officers to get more useable feedback about how they are doing in their job." Company grade officers identified the lack of useful and ongoing feedback via OER

requirements, and a "zero-defects" environment perception fostered by the OER process as major concerns during an extensive look at the Army's methods of growing and developing leaders. The Officer Army Training and Leader Development Panel results that identified those concerns were released in May 2001.

In 2002, the Army moved to mask, or remove to the restricted file, all lieutenant OERs once the officer reached the rank of captain in order to address part of the panel's findings.

The decision to mask those OERs at the rank of captain was to allow junior officers

See OERS, page 11

Chapel powers up Vacation Bible School



A Jesus Wreath, completed by a child in the kindergarten class surrounds 4-year old Peyton Jones, bowed in prayer during an opening session of Vacation Bible School in the Aberdeen Area Chapel Aug. 4.

Illustration by BLAKE VOSHELL

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Who would have thought two little ants would have such a huge impact on the spiritual education of youths.

Attendees to this year's Aberdeen Proving Ground Vacation Bible School held Aug. 2 thru 6 at the Aberdeen Area Chapel, found out otherwise.

With Rachel and Rubin Ant, the mascots of the "Jesus Helps You Power Up" lesson plan prominently displayed, more than 100 youths "powered up" on positive messages straight from the Bible during the weeklong program sponsored by the Protestant, Gospel and Catholic services.

From pre-kindergarteners to high school seniors, lessons were plentiful in the seven learning center classrooms that made up the school, according to Joyce Bridges, religious education coordinator.

"Each night there is a different theme," Bridges said. "The lesson plans and art projects change every day."

She said that Spc. Chad

Emrick, chaplain's assistant, and his wife Annette, get things started, leading the participants and volunteers each evening in a musical pep rally with songs of praise in the chapel sanctuary.

"He gets them going and in the spirit," Bridges said.

The more than 60 volunteers included parents or parishioners from the Protestant, Catholic and Gospel services.

APG chaplains were on hand each evening to participate in or oversee the evening programs.

"The week went very well," said Chaplain (Maj.) Anthony Montague, 61st Ordnance Brigade and pastor of the Gospel Service.

"It's a blessing to have community members who don't mind coming out to lend a hand," Montague said.

He said that the positive atmosphere should attract more people to chapel services.

"Most will come back because of what their children received this week. When they see the result, they will want to

See BIBLE SCHOOL, page 14

Watch Card

Observe and report:

- Unusual or suspicious activity or suspected surveillance.
- Unusual questions or requests for information relating to capabilities, limitations,

- or operational information.
- Unusual vehicles operating in or around the installation.
- Unusual phone calls, messages, or e-mails.
- Unusual contacts, on or off post.
- Unusual aerial activity

- near or around installation.
- Any possible compromise of sensitive information.
- Do not:**
- Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning.
- Discuss military capabilities or limitations.
- Discuss force protection

- measures, capabilities, or posture.
- Disclose any information related to unit deployments.

Report any suspicious activity immediately to DOD Police:
Aberdeen Area, 410-306-

2222, 4-2222 or 911
Edgewood Area, 410-436-2222, 5-2222 or 911
Off post in Maryland, 1-800-492-TIPS (8477).
Your call may save lives.
Note - Do not take this card with you when on travel outside of the US.

Veterans' voices

American Airlines says ‘Thank You!’ to military personnel Travel extended on special fares

American Airlines

In recognition of the courageous efforts of U.S. military personnel, American Airlines today announced the continuation of several special offers, including discounted fares, Admirals Club® access and Group One Boarding privileges exclusively for active-duty members of the military. “We appreciate the continued sacrifices made by our service men and women, and their families,” said Dan Garton, American’s executive vice president-marketing. “By extending these special offers, we hope to make it easier for military families to get together with their loved ones.”

American Airlines is now allowing travel on special fares through Jan. 31, 2005. Active-duty members of the U.S. Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, National Guard, and Reserves who are on leave or furlough (including those who are traveling within seven days of discharge from active service), and their spouse and dependent children are eligible for these fares. Special military fares also are available for travel to various international destinations. Reservations can be made at American Airlines ticketing locations or by calling American Airlines reservations toll-free at 800-433-7300.

Military ID must be presented at the time of airport check-in. These military fares are not available via the Internet. Other restrictions apply. For complete rules and restrictions, visit Web site, <http://www.aa.com>. United States military men and women who are participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom also are welcome to be American’s guests at Admirals Club facilities worldwide between flights when they are on emergency or Rest and Relaxation leave from their overseas duties. This invitation for complimentary access has been extended

through Dec. 31, 2004 at all airport locations that do not have USO facilities. Eligible military personnel in appropriate uniform need only present their emergency or R&R leave forms from Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom to access an Admirals Club® location. In addition, American is inviting uniformed military personnel to pre-board with first-class passengers, or at any time during the boarding process. The boarding announcements were modified in February, and American plans to continue this service as a thank you to U.S. troops.

Samples of American's low fares for the U.S. military	
City pair	Fare each way*
Atlanta - St. Louis +	\$81
Chicago - Raleigh/Durham	\$85
Colorado Springs - Dallas/Fort Worth	\$119
Dallas/Fort Worth - Norfolk	\$134
Dallas/Fort Worth - St. Louis	\$94
Dallas/Fort Worth - San Diego	\$139
El Paso - Washington, D.C.	\$123
Miami - Oklahoma City +	\$136
Omaha - San Antonio	\$112
* Fares shown are in U.S. dollars for one-way Economy Class travel based on round-trip purchase and do not include government imposed taxes and fees.	
+ A portion or all travel may be on American Eagle or AmericanConnection, regional airline associates of American Airlines.	

Win a free trip through VFW's ‘Return to Vietnam’ drawing

VFW National Headquarters

Veterans who received a Purple Heart while serving in Vietnam are eligible to become one of 12 lucky vets to win VFW’s “Return to Vietnam” trip. Entries must be received prior to the Nov. 15

drawing. Winners will be notified by mail or e-mail in early December. Previous VFW-sponsored trip-winners to the Army-Navy Game and the 20th anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial funded through the

Kahle Fund are not eligible to enter. The in-country tour will take place April 8 thru 17, 2005 and will include visits to Saigon, the Mekong Delta, Cu Chi, Hue, the DMZ, Hoi An, Marble Mountain and China

Beach. Airfare, accommodations and meals are included. Vets can revisit battle sites and share their experiences with fellow Vietnam vets. Send name, address, telephone, e-mail address, VFW Post No. and location, military

service and unit and dates in Vietnam to: Assistant Adjutant General - Programs, VFW National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111. If not a member of a VFW, information can be mailed to requestor by indicat-

ing membership information is needed. To claim their trip, winners must send a copy of their Purple Heart documentation to VFW National Headquarters by Dec. 15, and their passport by Jan. 15, 2005.

APG retiree still serving -- helping others through love of the sea



Photo by LISA R. RHODES
Retired Col. Charles Shadle says the Chesapeake Bay is a national and international treasure. As a volunteer advisor to the Coast Guard Auxiliary at APG, Shadle has taught water safety to thousands of Soldiers over the past five years.

Lisa R. Rhodes
Soundoff

When retired Col. Charles Shadle was a child growing up at Edgewood Arsenal, now a part of the southern region of Aberdeen Proving Ground [known as the Edgewood Area], he spent many days crabbing and fishing along the Bush River that runs into the Chesapeake Bay. “If you don’t take advantage of the Chesapeake Bay while you live around it, you’re missing a great adventure,” Shadle said. Today, Shadle is a volunteer adviser with the Coast Guard Auxiliary at APG, and teaches Soldiers and civilians about water and boat safety. Shadle, who joined the auxiliary in 1974, has used his love for the sea to help keep service members and the public safe. “Over the years, I may have helped to save a couple of lives and that’s what’s made it worthwhile,” he said. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is a legal branch of the U.S. Coast Guard and is charged with educating the public about boat and water safety. Shadle said the auxiliary is primarily a search and rescue unit that patrols the Chesapeake

Bay, but has no law enforcement powers. **Public service first** Shadle is a member of the auxiliary’s Division 13, which oversees the upper regions of Chesapeake Bay. The division is made up of about 150 volunteers. Army Fox, captain of Division 13, said Shadle is the “epitome” of a public servant. Fox said Shadle’s energy level, commitment and years of military service are admirable qualities. “He’s amazing,” said Fox, noting that Shadle has twice served as the Division’s captain in the past. Shadle began his military career in 1942 when he signed up for the Army Reserve a few days after Pearl Harbor. He was enrolled at the Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy, now known as the University of Texas at El Paso. A year later, Shadle left college and enlisted in the Army. He was then commissioned to join the 97th Chemical Mortar Battalion and was sent to France and Germany during World War II. After the war, Shadle was sent on a short assignment to Denver, Colo., and met his future wife, Hildegard, who was a nurse at Fitzsimons Army Hospital. The couple married in December 1946 and Shadle was then sent to the Philippines where he served for three years. He later returned to the states and worked as an intelligence instructor at the Ground General School at Fort Riley, Kan., but was then sent to Korea as part of the Ninth Corps G2 Section. Shadle eventually finished his bachelor’s degree in business administration through the Army’s Advanced Education Program.

In 1960, Shadle was assigned to teach military science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While teaching there, he re-entered an Army education program and earned his master’s degree in education at Framingham State College, once known as the Normal School, the oldest state-sponsored teacher’s school in the country. Shadle also attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. **Returning home** After graduate school, Shadle served in Vietnam and went on to serve at Fort McClellan, Ala., and Fort Lewis, Wash., before being assigned to Dugway Proving Ground in Utah. In 1971, Shadle was assigned to APG. He served as the deputy installation commander for three years and oversaw the consolidation of Aberdeen and the Edgewood Arsenal. He retired in 1974. While serving at APG, Shadle heard about a boating club and met several people who volunteered at the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Shadle was hooked. He volunteered on the weekends at the auxiliary while he worked for the Hartford County government for close to a decade. Shadle also worked part-time as a marine surveyor and part-time as an American history and marine navigation instructor at Hartford Community College. In 1984, he worked as an adviser to several private companies and eventually worked for the AAI corporation, now located in Hunt Valley, Md. Shadle later retired from AAI. Last year, he decided to stop teaching at the community college because of the long drive from his home in Oak

Crest Village, in Baltimore County, to the school. In addition to his volunteer work with the auxiliary, Shadle is also a volunteer reserve officer at the Maryland Natural Resource Police and teaches boat safety and vessel examination techniques to its instructors. NRP is a law enforcement branch of the Department of Natural Resources and also provides search and rescue services, along with emergency medical services and public education. “He’s indispensable,” said Cpl. Ronald Dring, reserve coordinator of the central region at NRP. Dring said Shadle has also taught boat safety to cub scouts. “I can’t think of anybody who doesn’t like him,” Dring said. **Save the Bay** Shadle is also co-chairman of the Retiree Council at APG. The council is a subdivision of the Fort George G. Meade Retiree Council. Shadle said one of his main concerns is the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay. “It’s disheartening to know that in a 70- to 80-year period, the Chesapeake has gone from a beautiful, pristine body of water, to almost a dead sea in some parts,” Shadle said, noting that toxic dumping has destroyed far too much of the fish and sea life. But he said there is currently an effort to raise funds to clean the bay. At 82, Shadle said his wife thinks he should take it easy for a while, but he isn’t convinced. “Until the day I have a walker or cane, I’ll continue to be active,” Shadle said. (Editor’s note: Reprinted with permission from SOUND OFF, Ft. Meade, MD.)



Photo courtesy of retired COL. CHARLES SHADLE
Bob McGrath, left, and retired Col. Charles Shadle, two volunteers for the Coast Guard Auxiliary, take Patricia L. Shadle’s former 40-foot cruiser out on patrol of the Chesapeake Bay more than 10 years ago. Shadle named the boat after his youngest daughter who tragically died in a car accident caused by a drunken driver.

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 2201, AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; or send e-mail to editor@usag.apg.army.mil. Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday’s paper.

Staff

APG Commander	Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg
Public Affairs Officer	George P. Mercer
Editor	Debi Horne
Editorial Assistant	Marguerite Towson
Contract Photojournalists	Yvonne Johnson
	Meghan Bowen
Graphic Designer/Web Designer	Blake Voshell
Web site	www.apgnews.apg.army.mil



Photo courtesy of ATC
A Stryker equipped with slat armor sits on the turning circle of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center Munson Test Course.



Photo by SGT. JEREMY HECKLER
Stryker vehicles equipped with slat armor from 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, position themselves in the town of Samarra, a town northwest of Baghdad in December 2003.

ATC awards employees for slat armor efforts

Susan Hagan (ATSS)
ATC

Awards were presented to 136 government and mission support contract employees by Col. Mary K. Brown, Aberdeen Test Center commander, July 27 and 28 for the exemplary manner in which they supported the accelerated design, development, fabrication, testing and fielding of slat armor for eight Stryker variants.

“It took a lot of people doing

a lot of different things to make this a success,” Brown said. Slat armor, a cooperative effort between ATC, Program Manager - Brigade Combat Team, the Developmental Test Command, the Army Research Laboratory and General Dynamics, was designed, fabricated, installed and tested for eight Stryker vehicle configurations in just seven weeks.

Each configuration was designed with minimal if any

impact to the functional aspects of the vehicle such as stowage of ammunition and independent rear door and ramp operations. In some cases, improvements were made to the base-line vehicle.

For example, the driver’s field of view on the Fire Support Vehicle was improved by raising the smoke grenade launcher.

All configurations were addressed with respect to

human factors and modified accordingly.

“Slat armor has done what we said it was going to do,” Brown said. “It has stopped RPG’s. [Soldiers] might have been shaken up, but they’ve been able to go on with their mission and on with their lives.”

ATC fabricated the first 20 Infantry Carrier Vehicle kits that were sent to Fort Lewis, Wash., for installation and

training. ATC personnel provided on-site instruction for nearly two weeks to train the installation team and to work out any remaining installation issues.

“Sending kits to Fort Lewis allowed Soldiers to train...” Brown said, “but more important is that you’ve saved, and continue to save, lives.”

ATC also assisted the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command in the

development of the installation manuals for each variant and coordinated with Lima Army Tank Plant to build the remaining kits needed for deployment, providing support by fabricating approximately 5,000 parts for the next set of armor kits.

“Thank you very much for your great achievement,” Brown said. “You are saving lives, and not many people can say that.”

School uniforms available on AAFES.com

Judd Anstey, Capt.
Diane Weed
AAFES

With the new school year fast approaching, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service wants to remind its customers that America’s best selling brand of school uniforms, French Toast, is available at the All-Services Exchange Online Store at www.aafes.com, www.usmc.mccs.org, www.navy-nex.com, and cg-exchange.com.

AAFES and French Toast teamed up in an effort to provide a first rate product at an exceptional price for the All-Services Exchange Online shopper.

For the past 11 years,

French Toast, America’s best selling brand of school uniforms, has provided quality official school wear to our nation’s schools. Customers requiring school uniforms for their children have the convenience of year-round shopping. The Exchange Online Store offers hundreds of styles in a full range of sizes to accommodate students from kindergarten to high school.

Customers can shop the complete assortment (over 4,000 items available) of uniform fashion and accessories from the convenience of their homes. Hard to find sizes (slim and husky) are easy to find on the French Toast site. The site also offers a detailed

“Resources and Community” section where customers can read about school uniforms, their benefits, and why more and more schools are moving in this direction.

Just log on to the Exchange Online Store and go to CentricMall. Click on the French Toast icon and start shopping.

In addition to school uniforms, CentricMall also has two great shoe sites for all those back to school needs with Zappos and Peltz shoes.

As always, there is a military discount and returns are hassle free when shopping CentricMall stores. CentricMall.com shoppers receive a 15 percent discount in

the French Toast store.

The AAFES is a joint command of the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force, and is directed by a board of directors who is responsible to the secretaries of the Army and the Air Force through the Service chiefs of staff.

AAFES has the dual mission of providing authorized patrons with articles of merchandise and services and of generating non-appropriated fund earnings as a supplemental source of funding for military Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

To find out more about AAFES, visit <http://www.aafes.com/pa/default.asp>.



Courtesy of AAFES CATALOG PRODUCTION

Miller named new ARL director

Dave Davison
ARL

The selection of John M. Miller as director of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory was announced by Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Aug. 5.

In making the announcement, Doesburg said, “We look forward to Mr. Miller’s continued success and proven leadership in directing the United States Army Research Laboratory to new horizons in research, which is so vital to the mission accomplishment of American warfighters around the world.”

Miller served in a number of positions at ARL and the U.S. Army Harry Diamond Laboratories during his federal career. Prior to that Miller was a project engineer at Pratt and Whitney Aircraft Co. He has been serving as acting director of the laboratory since March 2003.

Miller has a bachelor’s degree in aerospace engineering and a master’s degree in mechanical engineering, both from the University of Maryland.

Among his awards and honors, in 1980 he received the U.S. Army Research and Development Award for outstanding technical achievement, and in 1988 he was appointed to the federal government’s Senior Executive Service.

ARL, part of RDECOM, is the Army’s corporate laboratory for fundamental and applied research.

ARL provides key technologies and analytical support as well as critical links between the scientific and mil-

itary communities to help American soldiers in the battlefield.

ARL has major sites at the Adelphi Laboratory Center and Aberdeen Proving Ground and White Sands Missile Range in N.M., and shares

facilities with NASA at two sites, NASA-Langley, Hampton, Va., and NASA-Glenn, Cleveland, Ohio.

ARL’s extramural basic research program is managed by its Army Research Office in Research Triangle Park, N.C.



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

Rule’s Driving School teaches teens driving curriculum, safety

Story and photos by
Meghan Bowen
APG News

Rules Driving School offers young drivers an education about the rules, risks, and reality of life on the road for Aberdeen Proving Ground youths.

“We’re there trying to teach kids the right way to drive,” said Gregory L. Williams, owner of Rules Driving School, who thought of the name for the business while being certified through the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration. “We try to instill safety everyday. We look at them like they’re our own sons and daughters,”

“I had to read through all of the rules and regulations there and that’s where I got the name for Rules Driving School,” Williams said.

Williams, a retired staff sergeant who previously worked on APG for eight years, was the third recipient of the Bush Declaration for Entrepreneurial Spirit Award from the Harford County Community College and the Chamber of Commerce in 2003. The mother of one of his driving school students nominated him for the award.

Parents are required to attend the first meeting to get informed and to get a sample of the classes.

“We like the parents to get involved on the in-briefing; so they can know about all the new rules and regulations for their child, because it’s different from when they got their license,” Williams said.

“We want your parents here to know what’s going on and who their leaving their child with,” said Silas Summers, driving instructor, who expressed his dedication to the students.



Lyndsey Scott, right, driver’s education student, tries out one of the Rules Driving School’s cars with Gregory L. Williams, left, owner and instructor, outside of building 2572 on Aug. 9.

“My job, and I’m serious about it, is to make sure you get the best quality instruction. I owe that to your parents, because for every hour we sit here two people die in an accident,” Summers said.

“Driving is like a game of baseball: you win every time you make it home. If you don’t make it home, you leave a trail of pain behind you -with people thinking about who you could have been,” said Summers, a retired police sergeant with the Baltimore City Police Department for 30 years who saw his “share” of traffic accidents.

“I’ve handled a lot of accidents involving young people. Today we’re losing too many of our children,” he said.

Summers stressed the importance of being a polite driver.

“A courteous driver is not only conscious of the rules, but

makes every effort to work with others,” Summers said. “Your attitude is the most important thing you brought to class tonight.”

“The kids who came in and paid for their driving school are the most attentive, because they paid the \$300 to be here,” Summers said. One father, Jerry Wright, said his son, Sean, paid for this class by cutting the grass and washing the neighbors’ cars. “I don’t anticipate any trouble with him staying in the class for the allotted time,” Wright said.

“I like to put him in situations that prepare him for life,” Wright added.

Teen Driver Education registration is now being taken for Aug. 23 through Sept. 3 session. Class fee is \$285 per student plus a \$15 registration/membership fee for teens of APG military and civilian personnel. Sponsored

students pay \$5 more. All classes are conducted in building 2752, 5:30-8:45 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Students are to bring notebook and pen/pencil. Bring a snack and drink for weekday classes. All rules and procedure will be thoroughly explained by the driving instructor. Parent orientation will be conducted during the first class. Parents should make sure students are on time and picked-up in a timely manner.

To make an appointment to register, call Christina Keithley at Outreach Services Central Registration, building. 2752, or call 410-278-7571.

For more information about the Teen Driver Education program, call Rules Driving School, Inc., at 410-939-7008 or 410-937-2184 or Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

APG BOWLING CENTER NEWS

Bowling special

A League Bowler’s Special will be held Aug. 25 through 27. All league bowlers bowl for \$0.75 per game and \$0.75 for shoe rental.

Leagues forming

Fall and winter leagues are now forming. All leagues are handicap leagues. Handicaps usually are 90 percent of 200. To determine handicap, after bowling the first three games, total the scores and divide by three to get an average. Take that average and subtract from 200 then multiply by 90 percent.

So whether a good bowler or not, this handicap helps all bowlers compete against bowlers that are.

Monday Night Crazy Trio - Bowling begins at 6 p.m., Sept. 27. Cost is \$8 per per-

son per week for 12 weeks. Team is comprised of any combination (all men, women, mixed). Cash prizes are awarded at the end of league.

Monday Night Football Widows Doubles League - Bowling begins at 6 p.m., Sept. 27, and costs \$8 per week per person for 12 weeks. Cash prizes are awarded at the end of league.

Tuesday Rock & Roll Doubles League - Bowling begins at 6 p.m., Sept. 28, at a cost of \$8 per person per week for 12 weeks. Cash prizes will be awarded at the end of league.

Wednesday Night Mixed - There will be a league meeting 6:30 p.m., Sept. 1 at the EA Golf Course Club House.

Male and female bowlers are needed to fill existing team vacancies. A team con-

sists of two women and two men or three women and one man. Also, the league will welcome anyone bringing in their own team.

Bowling begins Sept. 8 and ends sometime in April 2005.

For more information, call Dolores Huff, league secretary, 410-679-1718.

Thursday National Guard - There will be a meeting 7 p.m., Sept. 9, at APG Bowling Center to determine the cost and number of weeks. Team should be comprised of four per team (three men or women one man or woman, two men two women).

Friday Fun Bunch - There will be a meeting 6 p.m. Sept. 10 at the APG Bowling center to determine costs and number of weeks. Team is comprised of four bowlers (two

men and two women).

Saturday Youth League - Bowling for 28 weeks for ages 5 and up begins 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sept. 11. Early signup is Aug. 28. Consideration will be given to other scheduled sports events. A year-end banquet guarantees a trophy to all participants. There will be raffles and giveaways throughout the season.

Saturday Cosmic Doubles League - Bowling begins 2 p.m., Sept. 25 for 12 weeks for \$10 per person per week. Signup is limited to first eight teams. Any combination of bowlers forms team (all men, all women, mixed). Cash prizes will be awarded at the end of league.

ARTS & CRAFTS

To register for classes held at the Edgewood Arts & Crafts, building E-4440, 410-436-2153, call or visit during hours of operation or at MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4907/4011.

Ceramics

This basic ceramics class teaches the fundamentals of mold pouring, glazing and painting, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sept. 11.

Cost is \$15 including supplies.

Stained Glass

This beginning class will teach students how to make a simple sun catcher using the copper foil method, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aug. 21 and Sept. 18. Cost is \$25 including supplies.

Woodshop Orientation

The woodshop orientation is a safety course, required in order to use the woodshop. Class runs 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Sept. 4. Cost is \$5.

Looking for child care?

APG offers child care for children as young as 6 weeks old. Services are available for dependents of military, DOD civilians, contractors on post and military retirees.

To learn more, everyone is invited to the Aberdeen Area Child Development Center, building 2485, for Child care Open House Day, 3 to 5 p.m., Sept. 9.

There are openings available for children ages 12

months through 5. Hourly slots are available for children 18 months and up.

For more information or directions, call Ruth Strauss at 410-278-7111.

The following Family Child Care providers located in on-post quarters will also be open for visits: Aberdeen Area-Tonya Armstead, 410-273-8994; Abigail Lane, 410-292-9205; Maria Quinones, 410-293-6486; and in the Edge-

wood Area Laura Jordan, 410-676-2710 and Angie Rivera, 410-676-7465.

An appointment is needed to visit these provider's homes.

The EA Child Development Center, building E-1901 has openings for ages 12 to 18 months and limited openings for other age groups.

For a tour appointment, call Myria Figueroa at 410-436-2077.

FITNESS CLASSES

EA fitness classes

Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210
Power Step: 11:30 a.m.; Monday, Wednesday
This class uses "the step" for 60 minutes of intense cardio workout. Abdominal strengthening exercises and a relaxing cool down are also included.
Power Bar: 11:30 a.m.; Tuesday, Thursday
A total body strengthening class that uses the power bar (a weighted bar), the step, hand weights and tubing for resistance. Abs Blaster, Mat Pilates and Hatha Yoga classes are cancelled.



AA fitness classes

AA Fitness Center, building 320
Step & Sculpt: 11:30 a.m., Monday
Class consists of cardiovascular conditioning using "the step." Hand weights are also used to sculpt. The class ends with abdominal and flexibility exercises.
Power Cut: 4:30 p.m., Monday and Wednesday; 11:30 a.m., Thursdays
A 60-minute class that uses barbells or dumbbells for conditioning and strengthening, the class uses high repetitions to

exhaust the muscle groups.
Step/Conditioning: 5 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday
This class uses "the step" in combinations with various sports conditioning moves to provide cardiovascular improvement as well as muscle conditioning.
Mat Pilates: 6 p.m., Wednesday
Double Step: 11:30 p.m., Wednesday
This class uses two steps for a more challenging workout. Muscle toning and a relaxing cool down follow.
Gut Cut: 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays
This is a 30-minute workout designed to sculpt and strengthen the abdominal and lower back muscles.
Aerobic Kickboxing: 5 p.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays
The class consists of a cardio workout that combines traditional high/low aerobics with punches and kicks.

APG Athletic Center, building 3300
Yoga Fit: 11:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday
Class is based on aerobic format, warm-up, workout phase and cool down.



SCHOOL LIAISON/YOUTH EDUCATION

Roye-Williams holds Open House

Roye-Williams Elementary School will hold an "Open House/Back to School Night," 6:30 p.m., Aug. 26.

Roye-Williams is combining its Open House and Back to School Night to form a partnership between home and school before the school year begins.

The school store will be open for parents and students to purchase back-to-school supplies, and parents will be able to deposit funds into their child's lunch account.

For more information, call the school at 410-273-5536.

Registration for the APG School of Ballet and Dance begins

APG Child and Youth Services will hold registration for the School of Ballet and Dance by appointment 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, Aug. 12 through Sept. 2, at CYS Outreach Services-Central Registration Office, room 110, building 2752.

Classes include ballet, modern dance/lyrical movement and tap character, and will be taught by renowned instructor Karen L. Williams

Students ages 3 through 18 of military and civilian employees at APG and sponsored personnel are eligible for sign-up. The date for determining age eligibility is Oct. 1, 2004.

Classes cost \$95 per student per discipline and include one hour of instruction per week for 22 weeks and a recital. A \$15 annual registration/membership fee is required for students ages 6 and older, with a 20 percent discount for each additional child and 10 percent discount for each additional class.

Classes cost \$105 per student per discipline if a sponsor is required, plus a \$15 registration fee for students age six and older.

Aberdeen Area

Classes will be held at Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522, Ballet Room.

The schedule of classes for ages 4 and 5 will be held 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday, starting Sept. 21.

Ballet classes will be held every Wednesday, starting Sept. 22. For ages 6 to 8, classes will be held 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.; ages 9 to 12, classes will be held 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; ages 13 to 18, classes will be held 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Tap Character classes will be held every Friday, starting Sept. 24. For ages 6 to 8, classes will be held 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.; ages 9 to 12, classes will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; ages 13 and older, classes will be held 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Modern Dance/Lyrical Movement also will be held 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. every Friday, starting Sept. 24, for ages 12 and older.

Ballet classes (Mom and Me) for three year olds will be held 4 to 4:30 p.m. every Tuesday. There will be a mandatory meeting for all parents signed-up for Ballet and Dance 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 10, at the Aberdeen Youth Center. Disregard previous announcement for Saturday ballet classes for 3 year olds at 10:15 a.m.

Edgewood Area

Classes will be held at the Edgewood Area Youth Center, building E-1902, Gymnasium.

The schedule of classes for ages 6 through 8 will be held 4 to 5 p.m., every Saturday, starting Sept. 25. For ages 9 through 12, classes will be held 5 to 6 p.m., every Saturday.

A mandatory orientation session for parents will be held 6:30 p.m., Sept. 10, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center.

For more information, or to make an appointment to register and pay the fee, call Christina Keithley at 410-278-7571 or Pat Palazzi at

410-278-7479. The "Military Child Education Coalition"—an educational family resource worth keeping

For invaluable resources to assist in the education process for children in grades K-12, parents, military and civilian, should visit the Military Child Education Coalition's Web site, www.militarychild.org.

One link in particular is the "Assessment Resource Center-Maryland," which lists sites to assist and guide parents, such as: Maryland No Child Left Behind Web page, Maryland State Department of Education Home Page, No Child Left Behind Database, Maryland Parent's Guide to Achievement Matters Most, Maryland School Assessment, Maryland Curriculum and Assessment, Maryland High School Assessment, Maryland Testing What Students Have Learned (9-12), Maryland Testing What Students Have Learned (K-8), Maryland Sample Test Items, Maryland National Report Card and Maryland School Performance Report Card.

For Special Education, Maryland Accommodations and Modifications for Special Education Students, visit the Maryland Division of Special Education Web Page.

For bilingual/ESL students, Maryland Accommodations and Modifications for Bilingual/ESL Students, visit Maryland Assessments Publications in Other Languages.

Other sites of interest include Maryland State Directories, Maryland Gifted and Talented Education, Maryland Mentor-Higher Education Planning and Maryland Virtual Learning Opportunities Program.

For more information about the MCEC, call Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

Survey for concert attendees

Attendees to the 2004 Army Concert Tour featuring Montgomery Gentry on July 17 at Aberdeen Proving Ground are asked to fill out the survey at <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/entertainment/concerttour/>. It should only take a few minutes. Any feedback will be appreciated.

Activities

Methods of registration

Register for any MWR event by visiting the specific facility for the event, mailing in a registration form found in an MWR Program Brochure, visiting MWR Registration, building 3326, or visiting online at www.apgmwr.com.

Refunding Shirley Caesar concert tickets

Refunds for the Shirley Caesar Concert will be given at MWR Registration and Ticketing Office, building 3326 in the Aberdeen Area. The receipt or ticket must be presented in order to receive a refund. All requests must be in by Sept. 30, 2004.

For more information, call 410-278-4907/4011.

Shore Pool closes, others remain open

The Shore Pool is closed for the season. Olympic and Bayside pools will remain open with normal hours of operation through Sept. 6.

Back to School special at Chesapeake Challenge

Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park is offering \$1 off all go-cart rides through Sept. 6.

For more information, call 410-278-4124.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

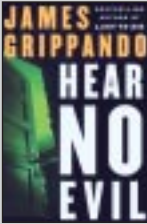
Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Edgewood Area Library is open 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday.

For more information, call 410-278-3417.

The following is a list of some new books available at the APG MWR libraries:

Hear No Evil by James Grippando

When a woman asks him to defend her against the charge of murdering her husband, Jack Swyteck is initially reluctant. The victim is a U.S. naval officer; the crime took place at the naval base at Guantanamo Bay; and Jack has almost no experience with military courtroom procedures.



Lost City by Clive Cussler

Better Than I Know Myself by Virginia DeBerry

Dark Voyage by Alan Furst

One False Move by Alex Kava

The library's Web site, www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html, provides access to the library's online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library's new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.

Post Shorts

1213, or e-mail dwbvast@aol.com.

ACS offers Dr. Thomas W. Phelan’s 1-2-3 Magic Workshop

This two-day workshop is designed to help parents manage difficult behavior in their children ages 2 thru 12.

The workshop will be held 6 to 8 p.m., Aug. 23 and 25 at ACS building 2754 Rodman Road.

All attendees will receive a complimentary copy of Dr. Thomas W. Phelan’s 1-2-3 Magic book.

Free child care will be available. Call Laura Reich, ACS, at 410-278-7478, to register by Aug. 20.

ACS sponsors “Another Dynamic Huggable Delightful Child”

The Exceptional Family Member Program will sponsor “Another Dynamic Huggable Delightful Child,” a class that will focus on parents who have children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, or ADHD.

The training will educate parents on ADHD, behavior modification and child training techniques.

The class will be 6 to 8 p.m., Aug. 25, at Army Community Service, building 2754.

Free childcare is available

but advance notice is required. To register by Aug. 20, call Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP coordinator at 410-278-2420.

RAB meeting next week

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., Aug. 26, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road.

The topic will include an update on the Westwood Study Area.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 800-APG-9998.

Family child care training scheduled

Family Child Care training will be conducted Sept. 20 through 24 at 2201 Rodman Rd., building 2752 in the Aberdeen Area.

Applicants who are interested in providing home-based childcare, especially infant and toddler care, and residents in the Edgewood Area, are encouraged to apply.

Deadline for applications will be Aug. 27.

Being a professionally trained provider in a warm, home environment offers many benefits including the potential for over \$500 per week; self employment; free training in a marketable pro-

fession; transferable credit to Army installations worldwide; free use of the lending library; free referrals by the Central Registry; free monthly newsletter; free workshops (nutrition, health, child development, safety, CPR, taxes and more); participation in the National CDA credential program; participation in the USDA food program and participation in the National Family Child Care Home Accreditation program.

For more information, call Alexia Baker, 410-278-7140/8720.

Testing alert to APG community

Aberdeen Test Center will support a training exercise through Aug. 27.

Residents and boaters in the surrounding community may hear weapons firing and aircraft as well as observe aircraft flying at low altitudes. Illumination devices may create flashes of light visible off-post.

Activity may take place in the installation’s restricted waters and/or in the air, over both land and water, and may include weapons and use of air and watercraft.

For more information, call 410-278-1147

Free Advanced Access computer class

Army Community Service will hold an Advanced Access computer class 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Sept. 1 through 14, Wednesdays only.

Students must register at ACS for this free session and complete the class to receive a certificate from Harford Community College. Books will be provided.

For more information and location, call Marilyn Howard, Employment Readiness manager, building 2754, 410-278-9669.

Single Parents and Raising Kids class

Army Community Service will hold a Single Parents and Raising Kids (SPARK) presentation, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Sept. 2, Rodman Road, building 2754.

Register by Aug. 31. Free childcare is available.

For more information or to register, call Diana Hayes, Parents and Children Together (PACT) program coordinator, at 410-278-4372.

Recruiting warrant officers

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties to those who qualify.

Applicants with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply.

For more information and all forms/documents required visit Web site, www.usarec.army.mil/warrant or call the military telephone using DSN at 536-0484/0458/0488/0478/0271/1 860. The toll free number is 1-800-223-3735, ext. 6 and the last four of the phone numbers listed for DSN.

Spend the day or weekend in New York City

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a trip to see the “Radio City Music Hall Christmas Show” on Broadway, in New York City. Choose to spend either the day or the weekend.

The weekend trip costs \$499 for a single, \$325 double, \$275 triple, and \$225 with four people in the room. The bus will depart 9:30 a.m., Nov. 26.

The daytrip costs \$115 per person. The bus will depart 6 a.m., Nov. 27.

Price includes charter bus

transportation, the ticket for the show and hotel accommodations, with time before the show for shopping and lunch.

For more information or to make reservations, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

Dental assistant positions available

Spectrum Healthcare Resources has full-time opportunities for dental assistants at APG.

The position offers good pay in a supportive team environment and a rewarding position caring for military personnel. Applicants must be a graduate of a dental assistant program and have a current CPR certification.

For more information, call Jenn Margherio at 1-800-325-3982, extension 4288, fax 1-877-519-4595 or e-mail Jmargherio@spectrumhealth.com.

AA Thrift Shop offers bargains

The Thrift Shop sales hours are Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Consignment hours are Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call 410-272-8572.

Saturday evening mass ends Aug. 31

The 5 p.m. Saturday evening mass will be discontinued beginning Aug 31.

The Sunday 8:45 a.m. mass at the Aberdeen Area Chapel and the 10:45 a.m. mass at the Edgewood Area Chapel will not be affected.

For more information, call 410-278-4333.

Weight Watchers holds lunchtime meetings at APG

Lunchtime Weight Watchers meetings are continuing on post with the newest program from Weight Watchers - FlexPoints.

FlexPoints makes losing weight in the real world easier.

Take advantage of group support where it’s convenient at APG. Lunchtime Weight Watchers meetings are open to all APG civilian personnel, retirees, military personnel and family members.

For more information about the Weight Watchers’ program at APG, call 410-278-1151.

After Hours Clinic

The After Hours Clinic at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is closed on Sundays and holidays. Patients needing advice on health care can call the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-308-3518.

For an emergency, call ‘911’ or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

CID looking for special agents

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is currently seeking qualified applicants to become highly trained, federal law enforcement special agents.

In order to qualify, applicants need to be 21 years of age with at least two years of military service and not more than 10; be a U.S. citizen; be an E-5 or below; be able to obtain and maintain a Top Secret clearance, have no court martial convictions; have a GT score of 110 or higher; possess 60 semester hours of college credit; have a physical profile 111221 or higher, normal color vision; agree to a 36-month obligation upon completion of the CID Special Agent Course and have 6 months military police or 1 year civilian police experience.

If no police experience, applicant must complete a six-month internship with a CID unit.

For more information regarding the application process, visit Web site, www.CID.Army.mil.

Social hour at Top of the Bay

Every Friday at Top of the Bay there will be a “social” hour, 4 to 8 p.m. featuring a cash bar, free munchies, and wings available for purchase.

Sponsored by Bank One, www.bankone.com/, and Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union, www.apgfcu.com/, the Friday gatherings are open to everyone.

For more information, call 410-278-3062.

APG plans Retiree Appreciation Day

Aberdeen Proving Ground will hold it’s annual Retiree Appreciation Day 8 to 11:45 a.m., Nov. 13, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326.

Representatives from area agencies to include, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Commissary, Post Exchange, Community and Family Activities and the Veterans Administration will be on hand.

The National Association for Uniformed Services will provide a guest speaker.

Following the program everyone is welcomed to stay for lunch at the Dining Facility, building 4503.

For more information, call Army retirees Col. Charles M. Shadle, chairman of the APG Retiree Council, 410-663-9263 or Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Decker, co-chairman of the APG Retiree Council, 410-306-1153.

AA meetings held at APG chapel

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at the Aberdeen Post Chapel, building 2485, every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For more information, call 410-278-4333.

Community Notes

THURSDAY AUGUST 19 HOME SELLING SEMINAR

A free Home Selling Seminar will be offered by Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union 6 to 8 p.m. at the APGFCU Operations Center in Edgewood, 1321 Pulaski Highway.

Guest speakers Cathy Werner of RE/MAX American Dream and Robert Brendel of Stonegate Title will cover topics such as reasons for selling, market analysis, costs of selling, for sale by owner, showing a home, negotiating the sale, and home inspections.

To reserve a space, call 410-272-4000 or 1-800-225-2555, ext. 5451. Open to the public.

SATURDAY AUGUST 21 30 AND OVER NIGHT

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054, located at 206 Spesutia Road, Aberdeen will sponsor a 30 and Over Night, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Donation is \$5. For more information, call 410-272-

3444.

SUNDAY AUGUST 22 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the North East VFW Post 6027 will be held at the Post, Route 272, Turkey Point Road, North East. Doors open at 2 p.m., bingo starts at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$10. Extra packs cost \$5 each. Food, beverages, baked goods, door prizes and raffles will be available. No smoking will be allowed.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson at 410-378-3338; Jean Patterson at 410-398-7457; Linda French at 410-287-0041; or call VFW Post 6027 at 410-287-7817.

THURSDAY AUGUST 26 RAB MEETING NEXT WEEK

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m. at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic will include an update on the Westwood Study Area.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 800-APG-9998.

ROYE-WILLIAMS HOLDS OPEN HOUSE

Roye-Williams Elementary School will hold an “Open House/Back to School Night,” 6:30 p.m.

Roye-Williams is combining its Open House and Back to School Night to form a partnership between home and school before the school year begins.

The school store will be open for parents and students to purchase back-to-school supplies, and parents will be able to deposit funds into their child’s lunch account.

For more information, call the school at 410-273-5536.

SATURDAY AUGUST 28 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the Port Deposit Heritage Corporation will be held at VFW Post 8185, Route 222. Doors open 6 p.m., bingo starts at 7 p.m. Food, bever-

ages, baked goods, door prizes and raffles available.

Tickets cost \$10 for all paper cards, and are available by calling Anne Gibson at 410-378-3338; Joanne Bierly at 410-378-3320; or Brenda Conjour at 410-273-7332.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12 SECOND ANNUAL RIDE FOR PRIDE

USO-Metro, American Legion Post 221, Seventh District Optimist Club, WSMD-98.3 STAR FM, and Honda PowerSports of Crofton present the second annual Ride For Pride.

The event will include a 40-mile ride through scenic Southern Maryland.

Police will escort the ride, and celebrity riders will attend both the ride and the post-ride party.

To register in advance, go to www.usometrodc.org or visit

Honda PowerSports of Crofton from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on the day of the ride.

Donation is \$25 per rider, and sponsors an Operation USO Care Package. For more information, visit www.usometrodc.org.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13 BOATER SAFETY COURSE

The Bush River Power Squadron will conduct an eight-week boater safety course, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at Box Hill Community Center, 2920 Strathaven Lane, Abingdon.

Class size is limited. To register or for more information, call 410-515-0195.

SATURDAY, SUNDAY OCTOBER 9 & 10 SOCCER TOURNA- MENT

Upwards of 200 teams from

New York to Virginia will be competing in the 7th Annual Columbus Day Weekend Youth Soccer Tournament.

The tournament headquarters area is the Ladew/Weber fields, where 14 tournament fields are located.

Tournament brackets are scheduled for girls under age 9 through under age 19 and for boys under 9 through under 15.

Teams are guaranteed three preliminary matches and all matches in age groups from under 9 through under 19 will feature the ‘USSF 3 official system.’ The under 9 and under 10 ages will play ‘7 versus 7’ on a “downsized field.”

For more information on the tournament or to register a team, visit Web site <http://www.ghsc.org/tourneys/tourney04/> or contact Jeff Hess, 888-528-9009, days, 410-806-0946, evenings, or e-mail Tourndir@ghsc.org.

LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave

to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency).

Employees leaving the program should call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)
Sarah Blevins
Barbara Boyd (total right joint and hip replacement)
Michael Cain
Melanie Carns
Juanita Carter
Barbara Crossley
Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)
Geraldine Eaton
David Fletcher
John Furman-kiewicz
Renee Gaffney

Melanie A. Hoff-man (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)
Richard Hoffman
Janice Johnson (diabetic neuropathy)
Beverly King (caring for husband)
Danny Kopp (lung cancer)
William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Tess Ramos (lung surgery)
Shannon Richards (maternity leave)
Cheryl L. Roark

Matthew Ryan
Leigh Sanders
Marguerite Soper
Alison Tichenor
Linda Tignor
Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)
Carl Davis
Charles Gambrill
Cynthia Henry (Bronchitis with complications)
Iris Campbell (Chemotherapy)
Natalie G. Dennison
Thomas Davie

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50 -- Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard
To verify listing, call 410-272-7520.

KING ARTHUR FRIDAY, AUG. 20, 7 P.M. SATURDAY, AUG. 21, 9 P.M.

Starring: Clive Owen, Loan Gruffudd

After 15 years of serving and fighting for the Roman Empire, the Sarmatian Knights, lead by Arthur/Artorious Castus, are about to receive their freedom as the Romans are leaving Britain. But the



Knights must carry out one final order before they are free. A Roman priest and his family, especially his son Alecto, must be rescued from the invading Saxons. But there is another danger lurking on the road to freedom - the Woads, British rebels who hate the Romans. (Rated PG-13)

ANCHORMAN (FREE ADMISSION) SATURDAY, AUG. 21, 7 P.M.

Starring: Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate

Ron Burgundy (Ferrell) is the top-rated anchorman in San Diego in the '70s. When feminism marches

into the newsroom in the form of ambitious news-woman Veronica Corningstone (Applegate), Ron is willing to play along at first-as long as Veronica stays in her place, covering cat fashion shows, cooking and other “female” interests. But when Veronica refuses to settle for being eye candy and steps behind the news desk, it’s more than a battle between two perfectly coiffed anchor-persons ... it’s war. (Rated PG-13)



Youth fall gymnastics registration

Registration is open for all ages for 10-week sessions and will continue until the classes are full. Classes begin Sept. 18.

Cost is \$40 per youth, and youth must be a Child and Youth Services member.

To register, call Christina Keithley, 410-278-7571 or e-mail Christina.keithley@usag.apg.army.mil.

Aberdeen Area schedule

Ages 2 1/2 thru 4, 9 to 10 a.m.

Ages 5 thru 7, 10 to 11 a.m.

Ages 8 thru 16, 11 a.m. to noon

Edgewood Area schedule

Ages 2 1/2 thru 5, 1 to 2 p.m.

Ages 6 and older, 2 to 3 p.m.



WARNING

Be Prepared for Hurricanes

Hurricane preparedness—being prepared before, during and after

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Almost a year after Hurricane Isabel destroyed so many homes and businesses, hurricane season has once again arrived, and all too soon for some. Many people have yet to recover from Isabel and are still struggling not only with the loss of their homes and property, but also with insurance companies. If homeowners can afford to purchase them, generators are very useful to have. With the memory of Isabel still fresh, here is some hurricane preparation information everyone can use.

Before a hurricane

Plan an evacuation route. Contact the local emergency management office or American Red Cross chapter, and ask for the community hurricane preparedness plan. The plan should include information on the safest evacuation routes and nearby shelters.

Learn safe routes inland

- Be ready to drive 20 to 50 miles inland to locate a safe place.

Have disaster supplies on hand, including

- A cell phone
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- First aid kit and manual
- Emergency food and water
- Non-electric can opener
- Essential medicines
- Cash and credit cards
- Sturdy shoes

Make sure that all family members know how to respond after a hurricane.

- Teach family members how and when to turn off gas, electricity and water.
- Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1, police, or fire department and which radio station to tune to for emergency information.

Protect windows

Permanent shutters are the best protection. A lower-cost approach is to put up plywood panels. Use 1/2 inch plywood - marine plywood is best - cut to fit each window. Remember to mark which board fits which window. Pre-drill holes every 18 inches for screws. Do this long before the storm.
Trim back dead or weak branches from trees.

Flood insurance

An insurance agent or emergency management office can provide information on the National Flood Insurance Program. There is normally a 30-day waiting period before a new policy becomes effective. Homeowners policies do not cover damage from the flooding that accompanies a hurricane.

- Develop an emergency communication plan.

In case family members are separated from one another during a disaster (a real possibility during the day when adults are at work and children are at school), have a plan for getting back together.

- Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the “family contact.” After a disaster, it’s often easier to call long distance. Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address and

phone number of the contact person.
Hurricane watches and warnings
A hurricane watch is issued when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24 to 36 hours. A hurricane warning is issued when hurricane conditions (winds of 74 mph or greater, or dangerously high water and rough seas) are expected in 24 hours or less.

During a hurricane watch

- Listen to a battery-operated radio or television for hurricane progress reports.
- Check emergency supplies.
- Fuel the car.
- Bring in outdoor objects such as lawn furniture, toys and garden tools and anchor objects that cannot be brought inside.
- Secure buildings by closing and boarding up windows.
- Remove outside antennas.
- Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest settings. Open only when absolutely necessary and close quickly.
- Store drinking water in clean bathtubs, jugs, bottles and cooking utensils.
- Review evacuation plan.
- Moor boat securely or move it to a designated safe place. Use rope or chain to secure boat to trailer. Use tiedowns to anchor trailer to the ground or house.

During a hurricane warning

- Listen constantly to a battery-operated radio or television for official instructions.
- If in a mobile home, check tiedowns and evacuate immediately.
- Store valuables and personal papers in a waterproof container on the highest level of your home.
- Avoid elevators.

If at home:

- Stay inside, away from windows, skylights, and glass doors.
- Keep a supply of flashlights and extra batteries handy. Avoid open flames, such as candles and kerosene lamps, as a source of light.
- If power is lost, turn off major appliances to reduce power “surge” when electricity is restored.

If officials indicate evacuation is necessary:

- Leave as soon as possible. Avoid flooded roads and watch for washed-out bridges.
- Secure the home by unplugging appliances and turning off electricity and the main water valve.
- Tell someone outside of the storm area where you are going.
- If time permits, and you live in an identified surge zone, elevate furniture to protect it from flooding or, move it to a higher

- floor.
- Bring pre-assembled emergency supplies and warm protective clothing, blankets and sleeping bags to the shelter.
 - Lock up home and leave.
 - If the waters start to rise inside the house before evacuating, retreat to the second floor, the attic, and if necessary, the roof.
 - Floodwaters may carry raw sewage, chemical waste and other disease-spreading substances. If contacting floodwaters, wash hands with soap and disinfected water.
 - Avoid walking through floodwaters. As little as six inches of moving water can knock a person off their feet.
 - Don’t drive through a flooded area. When coming upon a flooded road, turn around and go another way. A car can be carried away by just 2 feet of flood water.

After the storm

- Stay tuned to local radio for information.
- Help injured or trapped persons.
- Give first aid where appropriate.
- Do not move seriously injured persons unless they are in immediate danger of further injury. Call for help.
- Return home only after authorities advise that it is safe to do so.
- Avoid loose or dangling power lines and report them immediately to the power company, police or fire department.
- Re-enter the home with caution.
- Beware of snakes, insects, and animals driven to higher ground by flood water.
- Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry the home.
- Check refrigerated foods for spoilage.
- Take pictures of the damage, both to the house and its contents for insurance claims.
- Drive only if absolutely necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges.
- Use telephone for emergency calls only.

Inspecting utilities in a damaged home

- Check for gas leaks - If a gas odor is evident or a blowing or hissing noise can be heard, open a window and quickly leave the building. Turn off the gas at the outside main valve and call the gas company from a neighbor’s home. If the gas is turned off for any reason, it must be turned back on by a professional.
- Look for electrical system damage - If sparks or broken or frayed wires are seen, or hot insulation can be smelled, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker. If having to step in water to get to the fuse box or circuit breaker, call an electrician first for advice.
- Check for sewage and water lines damage - If sewage lines are suspect damaged, avoid using the toilets and call a plumber. If water pipes are damaged, contact the water company and avoid the water from the tap.
- To obtain safe water melt ice cubes.

For more information, visit www.fema.gov/hazards/hurricanes, or www.nws.noaa.gov/om/hurricane/index.shtml.

Surviving the aftermath of a hurricane, tornado or flood

CPSC warns of post-storm hazards from generators, candles, and wet appliances

CPSC

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission warns of dangers from generators, candles, and wet appliances after a natural disaster such as a hurricane, tornado, or flood knocks out electricity.

The commission offers the following safety tips:

N ever use a generator indoors, including garages, basements, and crawlspaces, even with ventilation. Exhaust fumes contain high levels of carbon monoxide, which can be deadly if inhaled. Use a portable generator outdoors in a dry area away from doors, windows, and vents that could allow CO to come

indoors. Never store gasoline in the home or near a fuel-burning appliance, such as a natural gas water heater in a garage where gasoline fumes could be ignited.
For more details about safe use of generators, visit www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PUBS/portgen.pdf.
Plug individual appliances into heavy-duty, outdoor-rated extension cords and plug the cords into the generator. Check that the extension cords have a wire gauge adequate for the appliance loads. Make sure that each cord is free of cuts or tears and its plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin.
Do not use electrical or gas appliances that have been wet and do not turn on damaged appliances because of the hazards of electric shock or fire. Do not use gas appliances that have

been submerged because silt can make valves inoperable, leading to a gas leak or fire.
N ever use charcoal indoors because burning charcoal produces high levels of carbon monoxide that can reach lethal levels in enclosed spaces.
Make sure the batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms are fresh. Test these alarms to make sure they are working.
E xercise caution when using candles. Use flashlights instead. If it becomes necessary to use candles, do not burn them on or near anything that can catch fire. Keep burning candles away from drafts. Never leave burning candles unattended. Extinguish candles when leaving the room.

Making arrangements for pets

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Before the hurricane

- Pets may not be allowed into emergency shelters for health and space reasons.
- Contact the local animal shelter, humane society, veterinarian or emergency management office for information on caring for pets in an emergency. Find out if there will be any shelters set-up to take pets in an emergency. Also, see if the veterinarian will accept pets in an emergency.
- Decide on safe locations in the house where a pet can be left in an emergency.
- Pet carriers should allow a pet to stand up and turn around inside. Put familiar items such as the pet’s normal bedding and favorite toys inside. Train the pet to become comfortable with the carrier. Use a variety of training methods such as feeding it in the carrier or placing a favorite toy or blanket inside.
- If the pet is on medication or a special diet, find out from the veterinarian what to do if the pet has to be left alone for several days. Try to get an extra supply of medications.
- Make sure the pet has a properly fitted collar that includes current license and rabies tags.
- Include an identification tag that has the name, address and phone number of the owner.
- If the dog normally wears a chain link “choker” collar, have a leather or nylon collar available if the dog has to be left alone for several days.
- Keep the pet’s shots current and know where the records

- are.
- Most kennels require proof of current rabies and distemper vaccinations before accepting a pet.
 - Contact motels and hotels in communities outside of the area and find out if they will accept pets in an emergency.
 - When assembling emergency supplies for the household, include items for pets.
 - Extra food should be available. The food should be dry and relatively unappealing to prevent overeating. Store the food in sturdy containers.
 - Keep an ample supply of kitty litter in a dry place.
 - Purchase a large capacity self-feeder and water dispenser.

During the hurricane

Bring pets inside immediately.
Animals have instincts about severe weather changes and will often isolate themselves if they are afraid. Bringing them inside early can stop them from running away. Never leave a pet outside or tied up during a storm.
Separate dogs and cats.
Even if the dogs and cats normally get along, the anxiety of an emergency situation can cause pets to act irrationally.
Keep small pets away from cats and dogs.
If evacuating and planning to take pets, remember to bring pet’s medical records and medicines with emergency supplies.

After

- If leaving town after a disaster, take pets with you. Pets are unlikely to survive on their own.
- In the first few days after the disaster, leash pets when they go outside. Always maintain close contact. Familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and the pet may become confused and lost. Also, snakes and other dangerous animals may be brought into the area with flood waters. Downed power lines are also a hazard.
- The behavior of pets may change after an emergency. Normally quiet and friendly pets may become aggressive or defensive. Watch animals closely. Leash dogs and place them in a fenced yard with access to shelter and water.

Miscellaneous

In most states, trained guide dogs for the blind, hearing impaired or handicapped will be allowed to stay in emergency shelters with their owners. Check with local emergency management officials for more information.
Birds must eat daily to survive. Talk with the veterinarian or local pet store about special food dispensers that regulate the amount of food a bird is given. Make sure that the bird is caged and the cage is covered by a thin cloth or sheet to provide security and filtered light.

OERs

From front page

more room to grow, ease the zero-defects perception and effectively remove comments from a junior officer's file that may be a refection of an initial learning curve, said George Piccirilli, Evaluation Systems chief.

"There is a perception among officers in the field that they can make no mistakes — that if they do, they will get a senior leader middle box check and that means they're not going to be promoted," Anderson said. "The truth is that the promotion system picks up plenty of officers with center-of-mass ratings. The current enhancements allow for more interactive and ongoing discussions between the rated officer and rater about how the officer is doing and allows for timely correction of errors along the way."

The enhancements will also bring deeper depth of experience and knowledge into the mentoring process, as brigade commanders will have to review the development plans battalion commanders create for their captains, Anderson said. Under the current junior officer development system,

company commanders create plans for their lieutenants and battalion commanders review them.

"The OER enhancements that we are talking about — expanding the requirements of the use of the developmental support form for company grade officers and WO2s, as well as eliminating the block check requirement for company grade officers and WO1s and WO2s — allows for leaders to focus on the real development of their junior officers," said Anderson. "What we want to do here is ensure that our junior leaders are given the opportunity to be sufficiently mentored as future joint and expeditionary leaders and warriors."

An Army Knowledge Online mass mailing to all active Army officers went out Aug. 16 explaining the OER enhancements in greater detail. In addition, a HRC Military Personnel Message giving implementing instructions was sent the same day to all Army personnel activities.

Officers can provide feedback on this subject via e-mail to arnews@hqda.army.mil.

For more information on the OER enhancements, visit www.perscomonline.army.mil/tagd/msd/msdweb.htm.

Army awards BPA

Charlene Parlett

Special contributor

VIP Printing and Office Supplies was awarded an Army-wide blanket purchasing agreement for office supplies by the U.S. Army.

VIP is one of only 18 office supply dealers nationwide approved to provide office supplies to the U.S. Army. The Army spends approximately \$100 million per year on office supplies. VIP will be available to the Army through the DOD EMall starting Sept. 1. VIP has been available on GSA Advantage since last year.

"We are honored to be selected as one of the participants in the Army's BPA award for office supplies," said VIP's President Barbara Pilkinton. "We worked hard for this, and it has paid off. As

a small, woman-owned business located in a HUBZone designated part of the country, this award shows that the federal government, and particularly the U.S. Army, is taking to heart the importance of small business in our current economy."

VIP Printing and Office Supplies is headquartered in Hinesville, Ga., approximately one mile from the main gate of Fort Stewart Army Base.

The business has served the army communities of Ft. Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield since opening in 1975. In 2003, VIP was awarded a General Services Contract for office supplies and began providing service worldwide to federal agencies.

For more information, call 912-877-5233.

Parent Child Care Association holds end of season meeting



Jennifer Eyet-Kunkel, center, outgoing president of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Child Development Center's Parent Child Care Association, holds the end of season meeting during the PCCA Family Picnic at the Maryland Boulevard Picnic Area Aug. 11.

Story and photos by

Yvonne Johnson

APG News

The Parent Child Care Association, a group of parents who donate their time for fundraisers and activities for the youths of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Child Development Center, held their end of season meeting during a picnic at the Maryland Boulevard pavilion Aug. 11.

Jennifer Eyet-Kunkel, outgoing president, presided over the meeting and the installation of new officers for the 2004-2005 year.

Eyet-Kunkel said the group consists of parent of the 130 children enrolled in the CDC.

"All parents are eligible to be involved in PCCA," she said. "You don't join, you just show up and participate."

The group meets the second Wednesday of each month at the Aberdeen Area CDC.

"We meet after hours so working parents can participate and child care is provided," Eyet-Kunkel said.

"Also, parents who donate their time can earn child care credits." The group's goal is to raise money to put toward

entertainment for the children, she added.

PCCA events and activities over the past year include the Blue Sky Puppet Theater and Kinderman visits, Month of the Military Child T-shirts for youths and staff members; a Wildlife Adventure visit and Dr. Seuss Week activities.

Volunteers also help around the CDC, Eyet-Kunkel said.

"We do anything to help with their environment or to make sure the kids are having a good time," she said. She said most parents participate for the satisfaction of seeing their children exposed to new things.

"It's good to see them excited by things they've never seen before," she said. "The more parents that participate, the more we can do."

The 2004-2005 PCCA officers are:

Lisa Sipe, president
Jan Harvin, vice president
Lisa Marvel, publicity coordinator

DeAnn Webb, secretary
Vickie Ruzicka, treasurer

For more information, contact Lisa Marvel at 410-278-6508 or e-mail pcca.apgcdc@comcast.net

OC&S trains combat lifesavers to respond within the ‘golden hour’



Far left, Airman Basic Daniel Dimitri, Air Force Detachment 1 attends to mock flash fire victim Pvt. Robert Masi, left center, and Sgt. 1st Class Stanley Mayhew, HHC 16th Ordnance Battalion Company center right, applies first aid to Pvt. Eric Earvin during the test exercises at Cohen Hall on Aberdeen Proving Ground July 20.

Story and photo by
Meghan Bowen
APG News

Mock gas leaks and a flash fire, battery acid burns, obstacle course free fall accidents, and a near drowning tested the training and response time of combat lifesavers and emergency response personnel on Aberdeen Proving Ground during July 2004.

The four test exercises were a part of the Medical Support to Training Certification Program, a required program that mandates specific basic and advanced combat lifesavers’ first aid capabilities in the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command school’s training facilities to render immediate emergency medical aid to an injured student, according to Keith T. Katz, chief, Safety and

Environmental Office for the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools.

“This year’s exercise program was a great improvement over last year, and was much larger in scope since we did four scenarios this year instead of just one in past years,” Katz said.

The intent of this year’s MST program, which has been an annual requirement since fiscal year 2000, was to conduct a series of unscheduled, no notice MST exercises at multiple facilities, using a variety of training accident-injury scenarios, to employ and evaluate an array of basic and advanced first aid capabilities based on the brigade’s training mission.

This included value added training scenarios for the APG Fire Department and

Emergency Medical Services, according to the After Action Review report covering all four exercises.

The training was based on risk assessments that evaluated possible safety hazards for students such as those who are being trained in welding, physical training, vehicle recovery and automotive maintenance facilities.

“Working with Ray Campbell, assistant chief for EMS over the past four years, we have enhanced the abilities of the Soldiers in the initial response to medical emergencies by purchasing and positioning Automated External Defibrillators [AED], Combat Lifesaver Bags, commercial burn kits, and bloodborne pathogen kits on the safety boards in facilities at risk for specific types of injuries,”

Katz said. “We also assembled a Heat Injury Kit...that provides the Combat Lifesaver additional tools to help assess and begin initial rehydration and cooling prior to the arrival of the EMS.”

In each staged test exercise, an available Combat Lifesaver, instructor, or student was selected at random and given a scenario sheet to initiate their response to each situation and any possible injuries.

In the first exercise scenario, a Soldier attempting to ascend the “Tough One” on the Aberdeen obstacle course loses his balance and knocks the tethered instructor off the top of the obstacle. The student “falls” 35 feet onto the padding and sustains a leg fracture and neck injury. Although his harness arrests the instructor’s fall, he still sustains a dislocated shoulder and has to be rescued from the top of the obstacle by the APG Fire Department.

After reading the provided scenario, the selected person had to attend to the injured parties using any available kits and resources to provide medical aid, while being monitored by exercise evaluators.

In the second exercise scenario, a student attempting to hook up a towing cable to a mired tank bumps his head and becomes disoriented. The student, who inhaled a small amount of water, begins choking and eventually stops breathing.

In this exercise, the APG firefighters gained valuable training experience when they had to maneuver their equipment through the water logged terrain of the Recovery Range to get to the injured student.

The third scenario involved students who were performing maintenance tasks on an

engine, when a lead acid vehicle battery becomes over-charged and ruptures, spraying battery electrolyte into one student’s face and eyes.

In this exercise, two fellow students rendered aid with a portable eyewash unit and then moved the “victim” to a recently installed emergency eyewash/shower unit to continue flushing the acid from his face and eyes.

In the last exercise scenario, two Soldiers responded to reports of a suspected gas leak and sustain severe burns when a flash fire erupts from the manifold building.

An instructor working at Cohen Hall responded to the acetylene manifold shed, and initiated first aid treatment to the two Soldiers using a bottle of water, his jacket, and a burn kit until the paramedics from the APG Fire Department arrived and took over treatment of the “burned” Soldiers.

The OC&S findings reported a “good response” by instructors and students, as well as several lessons learned, including some confusion when making the 911 calls.

“We need to work on our communication skills for 911 calls as far as being more precise as to the location of the incident and the details of what happened and the status of the injured,” Katz said. “We will also be working on the logistics of a better distribution plan for our Combat Lifesaver bags to ensure that every CLS has a bag.

“The response times varied, and that was a function of how long it took our people to make the actual 911 call from the time that the injury occurred,” he said. “The Fire Department response was slowed due to the artificiality of the Fire Department not

being able to respond “lights and sirens.”

Chief Ed Budnick, Fire and Emergency Services, Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, also commented on the difficulty for simulating a response to an emergency call without using the lights and sirens.

“We couldn’t get across Aberdeen Boulevard because of the lunchtime traffic since we were not using our lights and sirens,” Budnick said.

Katz added that a “flagger,” a person who flags down the fire response vehicles and directs them to the scene of the accident, would also reduce the Fire Department’s response time in each situation.

“We also need to work on making sure that a “flagger” is sent out to the street to guide the Fire Department/EMS to the incident scene in some of our larger training facilities,” Katz said.

The After Action Review report concluded that the TRADOC students training at APG have access to “appropriate” emergency medical and fire rescue support to provide medical care up to and including Advance Trauma Life Support treatment within the “Golden” one-hour of sustaining an injury or occupational illness.

Col. Paul Meredith, 61st Ordnance Brigade commander, summed up the after action review by expressing his appreciation for the level of experience and the quality of support provided by APG’s firemen and paramedics to the ordnance Soldiers, Marines, and Airmen training at APG.

USO volunteers complete 300,00th care package



Dozens of volunteers in the USO operations warehouse at Fort Meade stuff USO Care Packages full of sundries and other products for deployed service members during the Operation USO Care Package Stuffing Party marking the 300,000th package Aug. 6.

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Celebrating its commitment to the welfare of America’s armed forces, the United Service Organization of Metropolitan Washington marked the stuffing of the 300,000th care package created for deployed service members with an Operation Care Package Stuffing Party at Fort Meade Aug. 6.

Dozens of volunteers lined both sides of two long tables in the Fort Meade warehouse that has housed the USO’s care

package supplies for more than two years.

In an assembly line fashion, the volunteers placed sundries from boxes on the table, into each bag then passed it to the next person. Averaging 500 packages an hour, they paused only to cheer whenever a bell sounded to mark every 500th bag. By noon, the count was over 6,500.

“This is just a phenomenal occasion,” said Elaine Rogers, president of the USO of Metropolitan Washington, as she welcomed the party’s guests, Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich

Jr.; Edward Powell, president, USO World Headquarters; and Bruce Mitnick, general manager, Popular Mechanics magazine.

Rogers said the program, which started after 9-11 and then accelerated following the start of the Iraq War, has brought “overwhelmingly positive reactions from troops, volunteers and people who just want to do something to show their support for our service members.”

“We get e-mails everyday from troops who say it feels good just knowing people are



Two Soldiers injured while serving in Iraq, Staff Sgt. Richard Rodriguez, left, and Sgt. David Miller, help volunteers stuff USO Care Packages.

caring about them,” Rogers said.

The care packages packed that day would be distributed to USO locations where troops are deploying from, she added.

The volunteers in attendance included members of the Maryland Army National Guard and Air National Guard, U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer Association, and the Governors Office on Service and Volunteerism; the Baltimore Raven cheerleaders, and three Soldiers from Walter Reed Army Medical Center who were injured in Iraq.

All looked on and cheered as the governor performed a ceremonial 300,000th stuffing then wrote a personal message to be included in the package.

He said the “stakes have never been higher” than in the War on Terrorism and encouraged all to continue their support of America’s troops.

“The bottom line is that this is a wonderful event,” Ehrlich said. “It’s what America is all about. It’s also real serious because people out there want to kill Americans. The Soldiers out there are protecting us like never before.”

Installation Command Sgt. Maj. Esmond Bakker greeted Ehrlich and on behalf of the installation commander, Col. John W. Ives, accepted the USO’s Rising Star award and certificate of appreciation for its continued support.

“We are very proud to have been the supporting the installation supporting this function for the USO and our troops overseas,” Bakker said.

Maj. Gen. Bruce Tuxhill, the Adjutant General of Maryland, added that the MDARNG was proud to participate in the USO mission.

“Whatever we can do to help we’ll be there,” Tuxhill

said, adding that the National Guard is a community based organization, the only component with a state and federal mission.

“This is a wonderful thing the USO is doing,” he said. “We’re happy to be a part of it.”

Staff Sgt. Richard Rodriguez and Sgts. David Miller and William Smith were the three Soldiers recuperating from war injuries at Walter Reed who volunteered to spend their day stuffing care packages. The three smiled brightly as they took a break to pose for pictures with the governor.

“The USO does a lot of good things for us,” Smith said. “And Walter Reed has treated us like family. We just wanted to return the favor.”

“It’s been a humbling experience,” Miller said of his treatment at the medical center. “They’ve been good to me and my family and the USO has been right there. I’m just here for all the USO has done for us.”

“As Soldiers, it’s the least we can do,” added Rodriguez. “This feels great, like we’re really doing something for the friends we left back there.”

Williams and Miller are Army National Guardsmen with the 744th Transportation Company and the 210th Engineer Detachment out of Hillsboro and Peterboro, N.H., respectively. Rodriguez is an Army Reservist with the 800th Military Police Brigade, Uniondale, N.Y.

Frequently asked questions about Operation USO Care Package

What is Operation USO Care Package?

Operation USO Care Package is a program that enables individuals to express their support of America’s troops by sponsoring a care package and including a personal message. USO Care Packages are delivered to service members away from home.

How can I participate?

Individuals can sponsor care packages for \$25 each using a credit card or a check. Simply access the USO Care Package Web site at <http://www.usocares.org> and click the “Donate Now” link.

Is my contribution tax deductible?

Yes. Contributions are 100 percent tax deductible. Donors will receive donation receipts.

Can I send a package to a particular service member?

If you have an APO or other military mailing address of a loved one overseas you may assemble your own care package and send it via regular mail. It is highly likely, because of the volume of packages the USO sends, that a USO care package will reach your loved one as well.

The care package program is designed to

replace the “Any Service Member” program that the Department of Defense discontinued after 9-11. Its primary mission is to distribute care packages in volume to deploying or deployed service members at embarkation points and through other locations served by the USO.

Can I donate items instead of money?

No. The USO can only accept items that come directly from the manufacturer. Due to heightened security, the Department of Defense will not allow items donated through other means to be included in the packages. Manufacturers interested in donating prod-

ucts may call Beth Bradner at 703-696-3261. **What items are included in the packages?**

Generally, the packages contain at a minimum, one prepaid international calling card, a disposable camera, toiletries, sunscreen and a generic message of support from the sender. Other manufacturer include lip balm, chewing gum, playing cards, bandanas, reading materials, etc., so that the maximum weight for each package is about 2 pounds. The retail value of each package is from \$50 to \$75.

For more information, call 1-866-USO-GIVE or e-mail questions@usocare.org.



Taking the Chesapeake Challenge

Chesapeake Challenge offers family entertainment

Story and photos by
Meghan Bowen
APG News

The Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park on the corner of Springfield Street and Susquehanna Avenue provides a variety of games for military and civilian families.

Families can practice hitting 12 balls at a time in the batting cage for fifty cents a round.

"The batting cages are really cool," said Jacob Watts, 13, a Child and Youth Services Program participant.

Visitors can putt the golf ball through 18 holes on the Miniature Golf Course for \$3 a round, play arcade games for spare change, or race around the go-cart tracks in five-minute rounds for \$4.

"The 'go-karts' are the best part of the park," commented Kevin Irby, 19, son of Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby, who has worked at Chesapeake Challenge for the past two summers.

"The snacks are cheap too," said William Stone, 14, another CYS program participant.

One adult had an idea on another attraction that could be added to the park in the future.

"They could put a skateboard ramp out for the kids," said Diane Rose, Child and Youth Services assistant. "We have about four or five skateboarder's in our group."

The park's summer hours through the end of August are 5 to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 5 to 10 p.m., Friday; 1 to 10 p.m., Saturday; and 1 to 8 p.m., Sunday.

The September hours are as follows: 5 to 10 p.m., Friday; 1 to 10 p.m., Saturday; and 1 to 8 p.m., Sunday.

Wayne Doyel, outdoor recreation specialist, commented that his favorite part of Chesapeake Challenge is "watching the kids be entertained."

Back to School special at Chesapeake Challenge

Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park is offering \$1 off all go-cart rides through Sept. 6.

For more information, call 410-278-4124.

What is your favorite activity at Chesapeake Challenge and would you change anything?

Brandon Hilliard, 9

"I'd like to see a bigger track or laser tag too."

Santita McNear, 11

"My favorite part is the go-carts, but I'd like to see more basketball too."

Sam Spangler, 9

"I do almost anything with wheels. It would be cool if they had a bigger track."

Zachary Callahan, 9

"The go-carts are my favorite part."



Illustration by BLAKE VOSHELL



Spc. Chad Emrick, chaplains assistant, left, leads vacation bible schoolers in a question and answer session during the Aug. 6 “Power Up” session in the Aberdeen Area Chapel.



Chapel volunteer instructor Dina Hughes adjusts the crown on the head of Kavoss Mobley in the Vacation Bible School kindergarten class. Hughes said the youths created crowns to symbolize forgiveness as in the Bible story of a king who forgave one of his debtors.



Rachel the Ant, one of the mascots that symbolized the Aberdeen Proving Ground Vacation Bible School “Power Up” sessions, greets attendees at the sign-in table.



A tray of Servant’s Hands made of plastic gloves filled with popcorn and candy corn, created by chapel volunteers to symbolize the importance of lending a hand to help a neighbor, lies ready for the snack time break.

Bible school

From front page

keep the process going,” Montague said.

“Anytime you have an activity that produces productivity, it turns out good.”

Even the snacks provided during the breaks between classes provided a spiritual les-

son. Volunteers in the chapel kitchen, led by Chantay Averett, Jonathan Tran, Venita and Fred Mitchell and Dee Layman, prepared snacks each evening from the Power Up snack suggestion booklet.

They included Servant’s Hands, clear plastic gloves filled with popcorn with candy corn in the fingertips to resemble fingernails.

The point is to give the hand away to someone, to signify lending a hand or helping a neighbor, according to the lesson plan which included easy to follow instructions.

Other snacks included graham crackers decorated with cream cheese and M&M’s to resemble a cell phone with the lesson reading, “Everyone knows we can’t call Jesus on a

cell phone, but we can call on His power to help us love other people.”

Arts and crafts projects also varied widely.

Bridges thanked the volunteers who “just do everything.”

“We couldn’t do it without the volunteers,” Bridges said. “They fix snacks, assist teachers, help with arts and crafts, we could not do without them.”

Relief for hay fever sufferers

Maj. Beverly Crosby
CHPPM

As many as one in 10 people suffer from hay fever at some time in their lives. Children with hay fever may continue to have seasonal allergies as they grow older, or the allergies may go away over time. If an allergic reaction begins as an adult symptoms will probably continue.

A pollen count is a measure of how much pollen is in the air in a certain area at a specific time. Pollen counts tend to be highest early in the morning on warm, dry, breezy days and lowest during chilly, wet periods. Although a pollen count is an approximate and fluctuating measure, it is useful as a general guide as to when it is advisable to stay indoors and avoid contact with the pollen.

Avoiding pollen is not easy. Pollen is released from trees, weeds, and grasses and carried on currents of air to fertilize parts of other plants. Pollen can enter human noses and throats, triggering a seasonal allergic reaction, commonly known as hay fever. Pollen is one of the most widespread allergens. Weather conditions during pollination can affect the amount of pollen produced and distributed in a specific year. Rain can wash pollen out of the air for a time, cleansing the environment. Without rain, the environment cannot be cleansed of pollen.

The type of pollen in the air depends on the growing season and area of the country. Tree pollens cause most spring hay fever. In the summer months, grass and certain weed pollens are usually at fault. From late summer to the first frost, other weed pollens cause hay fever.

Common upper-respiratory symptoms of hay fever include sneezing, runny nose, itchy

nose, throat, or ear canals, ear congestion, itchy, watery eyes, post-nasal drainage.

Lower-respiratory symptoms that may occur include shortness of breath, especially with exercise or exertion and frequent coughing, or wheezing.

If hay fever symptoms are mild, no treatment may be necessary. Sometimes treatment with a nonprescription medication is required. Talk to a healthcare provider or pharmacist about effective over-the-counter drugs, such as antihistamines or decongestants. Be aware, however, that most OTC medications can cause drowsiness and can affect the ability to perform certain activities, such as driving.

If the symptoms are severe, an allergist can be consulted. Allergists use skin tests or blood tests to diagnose pollen allergies and can prescribe medications or allergy shots. Always follow the healthcare provider’s advice for controlling hay fever.

To reduce exposure to pollen and other allergens:

- Leave when the house is being cleaned, or wear a mask when house cleaning or mowing the lawn.
- Vacuum carpets, curtains and soft furniture often. Clean hard floors with a damp mop or cloth.
- Remove any mold found in the home. Use paint rather than wallpaper on walls. Do not put carpet in damp areas.
- Stay away from trees and grasses as much as possible during pollen season.
- Keep doors and windows shut in the pollen season. Use an air conditioner in the house and car.
- Shower or bathe at night to remove pollens or other allergens from hair and skin.